



AMA ESD RECEIVES “GROW YOUR OWN” GRANT AWARD

IMMEDIATE RELEASE - May 26, 2023

The Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Educational Service District will receive **\$3.5 million** to support efforts to develop more teachers. On Thursday, the Michigan Department of Education announced the list of “Grow Your Own” grant recipients, and the AMA ESD was 1 of 80 districts in Michigan to receive an award.

AMA ESD Superintendent Justin Gluesing was excited to hear the news.

“The educator shortage is the most critical issue facing our schools,” Gluesing said. “These funds will provide new momentum to address this shortage among our local districts.”

The AMA ESD region is one of the most isolated areas in our state when considering access to approved teacher preparation programs in Michigan. In-person access to these programs requires a 4- to 6-hour round-trip commute. Under the grant program, teacher preparation programs have expanded online program access. This shift will open more online pathways for existing school employees seeking initial certification or current teachers looking to add additional endorsements.

“The effort to bring these additional resources to our local districts has been a focus for the AMA ESD,” Gluesing added. “I am most excited for our local districts. I know the immense challenges they continue to face to recruit new teachers, and it is my hope that this program will help.”

The AMA ESD service area encompasses all of Alpena, Montmorency, and Alcona Counties and includes Alpena Public Schools, Alcona, Atlanta, and Hillman Community Schools.

Media Contact:

Justin Gluesing, Superintendent
gluesingj@amaesd.org
(989) 354-3101

Please see the full Michigan Department of Education media release included in this update.

Michigan Department of Education Press Release

Click [here](#) to view this release online.

Contact:

Martin Ackley, Director of Public and Governmental Affairs, 517-241-4395

Bill Disessa, Spokesperson, 517-335-6649

Future Proud Michigan Educator

Grow Your Own Staff Grants Awarded

May 25, 2023

LANSING - Eighty school districts in Michigan will be developing more teachers from within their ranks with Future Proud Michigan Educator Grow Your Own (GYO) staff grants, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) announced today.

GYO staff grants will provide opportunities for districts to increase the number of teachers in areas of shortage by supporting school employees seeking initial certification or additional endorsements. With funding appropriated by the state legislature and Governor Gretchen Whitmer, these grants will fund a significant expansion of GYO programs across the state and help ensure that every student will have access to high quality instruction.

Awardees for GYO staff grants applied for funds in partnership with one or more state-approved educator preparation providers. With plans to support teacher candidates through their programs and beyond, the awardees will be able to reimburse costs associated with educator preparation. A reported 1,375 future educators will be able to access funds as a part of this effort.

“Grow Your Own programs provide a pathway for school support staff to benefit from their successful experiences working with children, to become teachers, and to fill crucial staffing needs,” said State Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice. “We are excited that schools and districts across the state are working in very substantial measure in collaboration with our teacher preparation programs to increase access to this proud and important profession in support of children.”

The demand for GYO programs is significant. MDE received 160 applications for supporting future educators pursuing certification through alternative route programs, which totaled \$8.5 million in requested funds for the \$500,000 appropriated for this purpose. Grants for this initiative range from \$3,200-\$64,000. Further, MDE received 129 applications for supporting future educators in degree-granting programs, which totaled \$225 million in

requested funds for the \$175 million appropriated for this purpose. Grants for this initiative range from \$17,000 for a single district to \$19 million for a multi-district consortium.

To meet the high interest for GYO programs, MDE will provide a second opportunity for eligible applicants to request funding for degree-granting programs. School districts that want to learn more about the Round 2 GYO application process and timeline can consult the GYO Grant website or email MDE-PME@Michigan.gov.

Staff who are interested in learning more about financial support for future educators are encouraged to visit Michiganteacher.org and MI Student Aid to learn about funding opportunities for which they may be eligible. To consult a complete list of approved educator preparation programs in Michigan, visit the Michigan Directory of Educator Preparation Providers and Programs.

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2023 Future Proud Michigan Educator GYO staff grants:

Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona ESD

Ann Arbor Public Schools
Beaver Island Community School
Bloomington Public School District
Brighton Area Schools
Brown City Community Schools
Burt Township School District
C.O.O.R. Intermediate School District
Carney-Nadeau Public Schools
Caskan Alternative Academy
Cassopolis Public Schools
Clawson Public Schools
Climax-Scotts Community Schools
Coloma Community Schools
Concord Community Schools
Copper Island Academy
Decatur Public Schools
Delton Kellogg Schools
Detroit Leadership Academy
Eagle's Nest Academy
Fennville Public Schools
Forest Area Community Schools
Fruitport Community Schools
Gaylord Community Schools
Genesee Intermediate School District
Grosse Pointe Public Schools

Harper Creek Community Schools
Harrison Community Schools
Hastings Area School District
Heritage Southwest Intermediate School District
Holly Academy
Huron Intermediate School District
Ionia Public Schools
Iron Mountain Public Schools
Ishpeming Public School District No. 1
Kaleva Norman Dickson School District
Kelloggsville Public Schools
Kent Intermediate School District
Kentwood Public Schools
Lake Fenton Community Schools
Lansing Public School District
Lawrence Public Schools
Lawton Community School District
Lincoln Consolidated School District
Macomb Intermediate School District
Manton Consolidated Schools
Marlette Community Schools
Mason Consolidated Schools (Monroe Co.)
Menominee Area Public Schools
Menominee Intermediate School District
Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy
Mt. Morris Consolidated Schools
New Branches Charter Academy
Northwest Education Services
Oakridge Public Schools
Owosso Public Schools
Parchment School District
Pontiac City School District
Renaissance Public School Academy
Richfield Public School Academy
Rockford Public Schools
Royal Oak Schools
Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
Sanilac Intermediate School District
Sault Ste. Marie Area Schools
Stephenson Area Public Schools
Summit Academy North
Utica Community Schools
Van Buren Intermediate School District

Walkerville Public Schools
Warren Consolidated Schools
Washtenaw Intermediate School District
Waterford Montessori Academy
Waterford School District
Wayne-Westland Community School District
West Iron County Public Schools
West Ottawa Public School District
Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District
Wolverine Community School District
Ypsilanti Community Schools

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